



# Ø BEAT

FEBRUARY 1986



COLORADO SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

FIFTY CENTS AN ISSUE / \$4 PER YEAR

PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 16521  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. 80935

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



# Ø BEAT



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\* Denotes 2 year term beginning October 1984

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The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association meets on the second Wednesday of each month at Giuseppe's Depot Restaurant at 10 S. Sierra Madre at 7:30 p.m. All amateurs and interested parties are invited to attend.

Editor:

## COMPUTER CORNER

### FROM THE DESK OF YE OLDE EDITOR

**S**WAN SONG: def. a last or dying work, as of a poet or composer; an allusion to the ancient fable that the swan sings a last song before dying. Well, this is my "Swan Song". I have been to downtown Waco and decided to not pass up the offer given. It has been two years since I acquired this position. I started with the February, 1984 issue. It sure went by fast. I made some changes that I felt helped make it more readable. I didn't always get it right, but I almost always had fun. I learned a lot from the experience and even started a newsletter for the police department volunteers. I haven't been very active on the air lately, but that was because of all the things I was trying to accomplish. I did some of the things I had planned, and didn't get some done. I had help from many of you and appreciate that. I was "the new kid on the block" and made waves about a repeater and some other things. I believe that some good came from that and hope some of you think so too. Mostly, I am glad that I had the opportunity to make new friends and look forward to coming back to

those friends. I am maintaining a residence here and also down in Waco. THAT also could prove to be very interesting! No one has leaped up to take this letter over after me, so I have no idea who to tell you to direct your ads and inquiries to. I would like to recommend one person, but since he seems reticent, I won't. I have enjoyed the articles from those of you who did them, but especially from George Hinds, N8CIX. He has been consistent each month and writes about many different things. He has more than a casual interest in trains and associated items. I haven't had much time to talk to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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THESE ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE!  
 And, if you clubs are do if you wish, I  
 remain a member in good standing!

# MINUTES MINUTES MINUTES

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Pikes Peak Amateur Radio Association was held on January 8th, 1986 at 7:30PM local time at Giuseppe's Depot at #10 S. Sierra St. The meeting was called to order by President Les Borst, KC0NC. Minutes were approved as in the January Zero Beat. Treasurer's November balance=\$1858.72. Income was \$421.45, expenses were \$634.63. The balance going into January was \$1645.54.

OLD BUSINESS: Inventory of the club property will be taken so we know what the club has on hand. It was also re-emphasized that club property is not to be used personally, and is to be turned into the club custodian, Mike, K0TER. All excess club property will be disposed of at the next swapfest on May 17th, 1986.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Interference committee reports that two cases are pending. If anyone has some expertise in tracking down RFI contact Ron, NK0PF. One RFI report is a recurrence from 1985.

ZERO BEAT: Frank, KL7IPV, reports that the February Zero Beat may be his last as he may take employment in Texas. Someone is needed to take over as editor.

WALK FOR MANKIND: Mike, K0TER, let us know that the walk is coming up very soon. Help will be needed.

FIELD DAY: Tom, AD0C, will chair the event and wants input as to how it should be run. Tom made a survey as to what we should do, where it should be held and what facilities we should operate.

SWAPFEST: Ron, NK0PF, need tables at a cheap or no cost rate for the swapfest. Ron will meet with the manager of the Rustic Hills Shopping Center to finalize things.

HILL CLIMB: Doc, W0MCT, no word as yet, but be thinking about your involvement in the event.

EDUCATION: Frank, KL7IPV, nothing new to report. Many inquiries about

a novice class. Recommend that a class be scheduled in March.

CCARD: Oak, K0ROL, nothing new.

DEAF & BLIND SCHOOL: Jim, WA9ABB, Jim reports much interest and needs help from anyone interested. He has the classes on Tuesday evenings.

NEW BUSINESS: Christmas Party:

Byron returned \$66.45 to the club broke even.

VE TEST: Pete, N0LA, said the next test will be on February 22nd, 1986 at the First Methodist United Church at 420 N. Nevada St. and it will start at 9:00AM.

HOME BREW: Ron, NK0PF, brought in a homebrew ten Gigahertz dish, showed how he did it and offered to help anyone interested in duplicating it using similar materials. Les, KC0NC built an antenna tuner from scratch and machined the internal parts. It was decided that because of the bad turnout for homebrew, it would be repeated on February 12th, the next regular meeting. Hopefully, more of the members would bring a project. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The board meeting was held at Al's, N0CMW, house on January 13, 1986. All board members were present with the exception of Don, WD0HWS. A letter was read from ARRL that cancelled our liability insurance. A new carrier would be taking over as insurer. Zero Beat will be needing a new editor. Urgently need a volunteer. Swapfest wants the committee chairman to have a meeting. The February program will be Ray Uber-ecken, AA0L, talking about the ham and his environment. The programs for future are tentatively: March, Astronomy or Ken, WA6TTY, on building power supplies. April: weather. May, legal problems. The club needs a volunteer to head up a presentation on amateur radio to the spring care center. Next board meeting to held at Oak's, K0ROL, on Feb. 17th. Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.



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# RAMBLINGS

## WORLD RADIO NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

From the February, 1986 issue:

On October 17, 1984, the Commission released a Public Notice alerting Amateur Radio Service applicants that a date would be set after which all previous editions of the FCC Form 610 (prior to June 1984) would no longer be accepted for filing.

Effective January 1, 1986, only the June 1984 and later editions of the FCC Form 610 may be used to obtain an Amateur license. Applying on earlier editions of the form after January 1, 1986 will delay issuance of your license as your application will be returned without action and you will be required to refile on a current form.

### HOW TO FIND A VEC

If you need to find a Volunteer Examination Coordinator, look in the Callbook. The 1986 North American and Foreign editions of the Radio Amateur's Callbook has added a new listing service of all FCC-accredited VECs. The informat-

ion is by call area, and gives the names, addresses, and where available, a phone number for the VECs that serve all testing areas on a national basis. Tnx WESTLINK [1]

As of October 29, 1985, the number of Amateur Operator licensees in each class were:

Extra, 38,168;  
 Advanced, 97,864  
 General, 117,268  
 Technician, 83,361  
 Novice, 76,466  
 Total, 413,127

A petition filed with the FCC requests creation of a "public digital radio service" for owners of personal computers which would be allocated a segment, 52-54 MHz, from the 50-54 MHz Amateur band. A

license would not be required for operation in the service. Filed by Donald Stone, W6TNS, the petition was received by FCC on 10/31/85. As envisaged by Stoner, the new radio service would consist of an "infin-

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# WBLD RADIO NEWS continued:

He" number of local networks linked together into a national packet radio network. He referred to the election in Docket 83-28 of the idea of a no-code amateur license and maintained that its disposition of the docket left open the possibility that the Commission would consider some other type of radio service for no-code intercommunication between groups such as the users of personal computers.

## 2 MILLION WATTS by

Gerd Schrick - W8BIFM

How would you like to modulate 2 megawatts of RF power? During the Mexico City earthquake Ham communications effort, I received a call from Radio Luxembourg. They wanted to know if I was willing to interviewed live via telephone for 3 minutes on the subject of the Ham communications with Mexico City? What good ham could turn down the offer to modulate 2 megawatts of RF power?

The interview was set up for 7:35AM European time on Monday morning the 23rd of September. That meant 1:30 AM local time. The phone call came promptly, the interviewer introduced himself and told me to stand by until the music stopped. Then came the 3 minute interview, the thanks and I was ready to get some sleep. The well known Luxembourg Broadcast Station runs three transmitters: 2 megawatts on 236 kHz, 1.2 megawatts on 1440 kHz and 500 KW on 6090 MHz. Inx RF Carrier, Dayton, OH [C]

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will be held at 7:30PM at Giuseppe's Depot at #10 S. Sierra St. The program will be homebrew project and Ray Uberecken speaking about the ham and his environment. Remember to bring your dues if you haven't paid yet. If not paid this month, no news letter next month!!

\*\*\*\*\*  
DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE!  
UP The Dues are Due If you wish to  
Remain a Member in Good standing! 7#  
\*\*\*\*\*

## CLASSIFIED ADS

from the desk of George Hinds, N8CIX  
FOR SALE: DRAKE UV-3 Tri-band 144-  
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kit, IT Mic, manual, etc.  
Call george at 687-2610

\*\*\*\*  
from the desk of Dave Riese, WB0SDW  
FOR SALE: Tempo 1 w/AC & DC PS.  
\$250.00 Call Dave at 635-9593

\*\*\*\*  
Join the "Breakfast Club" on Saturday mornings. They now meet on Fillmore Street at Phil Moore's Restaurant. It is located on Fillmore St. between El Paso and Stone Avenues. It is on the north side of the street. That is the right side if you are headed for I-25 from Union.

\*\*\*\*  
From the desk of Ye Olde Editor:  
FOR SALE: I have a perimeter alarm system, new in the box w/remote sensors and trigger. retail \$600.00  
Sell: \$500.00. Call at 597-2406.  
\*\*\*\*

The next VE Test is scheduled for February 22nd, 9186. It will be held at the First Methodist Church at 420 N. Nevada St. at 9:00AM. For more info call Petre La Fosse, N0LA, at 495-4829 or reach him on 37/97 or 945/345.

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"VIEW FROM THE PEAK"  
by George Hinds, N8CIX/Q

Holiday trips, no matter how carefully thought out, don't always live up to one's expectations and time-table: our Christmas/New Year trip certainly was vastly different than intended.

I switched out radios from the car so as to concentrate on just 2 meters this trip: in went the Kenwood 45-watt job and out came the 220 and 440 rigs. I also intended to scan 145.01 going cross country to check the activity on packet.

The trip went well as far as the first visit - to our son and family in Iowa. But on the evening of arrival, my wife complained of some chest pains while watching TV, then the pains rapidly began to move into the left arm. At that point my son and I rushed her the 15 miles into Cedar Rapids and St. Luke's Methodist Hospital.

We didn't take time before leaving to hunt up phone numbers of doctor and hospital but called in while enroute on the 146.76 Cedar Valley ARC repeater for assistance: prompt response was received from a local amateur and, with the rig speaker to the telephone, emergency room staff were able to receive my description of the problem, the patient and the medication previously given. So, once more, having ham radio "in the mobile" proved to be of great value.

Think about that a moment: it does make you wonder why, so very often, amateurs travel over the road without having 2 meters on hand. Seems to be similar to driving in heavy traffic without the advantage of a good insurance policy to fall back on if the need arises.

Communications did help - on arrival they were waiting, prepared to handle a possible heart attack immediately.

As it turned out, our rush was in time: Thelma was treated and stabilized so that no heart damage occurred. However, examination proved the need for a heart bypass operation without further travel on our part. On December 26, she underwent surgery at St. Luke's in Cedar Rapids and is now recuperating here at

home. While we did have a later brief visit with family near Detroit, too, it certainly was not the extended holiday trip originally on the agenda. Our hopes of having several days with LEARA friends in Cleveland, and of visiting Willard Carson, WB8TSM and family in Bath, NC, also were dashed.

The dozens of phone calls, notes, cards and flowers from our friends were a bright spot indeed during this different holiday season. Thanks to all from both of us.

COMMON "CENTS" PREVAILS IN IOWA!


A strange sight to see while driving in Cedar Rapids (our hometown in the 60's for a decade) was the gasoline station price signs. Why? Because they state the price of regular and unleaded gas in even cents, not the infernal "tenths" so prevalent elsewhere. Wonderful!

Now, why couldn't that method be adopted by other merchandisers? Why is it necessary for a multi-bucks kitchen appliance to be priced at \$499.95? Why not make it an even amount - either 499 or 500, right...but on the other hand, along comes the tax collector for his take - and once again you'll end up playing with pennies and nickels. Life is unfair...say, what about buying a rig? Why do they have to add 95 cents to \$499.00? Or subtract a nickel from \$500.00? I could accept prices ending in 25 or 50 or 75 cents, but 95 or 99?

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## "HEE HAW" PUBLICITY FOR AMATEURS -- WITH A LAUGH

On January 11th, during a segment of the weekly "HEE HAW" television show, a skit portrayed a flea market in progress. One of the items for sale was a real "eating type" ham, to which they had affixed tuning and volume knobs plus a dial -- and how was it described? As a "HAM RADIO"...

## HOW TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST TRUCKERS' DANGEROUS HIGHWAY GAMES WITH MOTORISTS

A recent syndicated column by Mike Royko of the Chicago Tribune, carried in scores of newspapers nationwide, outlined the threat he had personally suffered at the hands of two truckers out to get him for slowing their breakneck dash down the road. Royko described how they boxed him between their trucks in what he felt was an attempt to either force him off the highway or to even crush his car between them. Luckily, he (and his wife who was with him at the time) was able to escape.

As anyone who is a high mileage driver knows (especially if he has a CB rig on channel 19 listening), this is not an uncommon occurrence today. There is a certain substantial element of the truck driving fraternity that has openly declared war on the motorist (or "four-wheeler" as they say). They claim the interstates and other major routes as "their roads" and you have no rights except to get out, and stay out, of their path. And as long as they have that lunatic fringe driving, too, it's good sense to give them the road, rather than risk the type of torture Royko was exposed to.

What he didn't do, though, was to take some action in the matter - he was just grateful to get out alive. But YOU can do something about it if it should happen to you. And the true professional trucker, his company, and the American Trucking Association will be grateful for actions that weed out the dangerous and destructive drivers.

Whenever you see an "18-wheeler" driving as if drunk, drugged, or simply far beyond safe driving practices, do this: COMPLAIN!

Get a trailer number and/or name, the location, date and time - jot it down or have your passenger do it. Put down any other information that will be helpful in identifying the culprit: direction, weather/road conditions, etc.

Then, if the situation appears to be extremely hazardous (drunk, loss of control, etc.) pull off at the nearest exit where you can report it to the police (it doesn't cost anything to make an "O" operator-assisted emergency call from the usual pay phone).

Now: mark down this telephone number, guaranteed to get a response against the offender - it's the "Hotline" for the ATA to receive such reports --

703 - 838 - 1855

The ATA has stated that they will follow up on every complaint against any truck, whether it be operated by a big or little company, or by a private owner/operator.

If you are sufficiently fired-up to go even further, write a letter with the facts to the company involved (if you got the name off the truck). You can find the address at your local library in the "MOTOR CARRIER GUIDE". And, if you still want to go further, write the facts to:

Director, Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety  
Federal Highway Administration  
400 7th NW  
Washington, DC 20590

COMPLAIN! It will make you feel better; you'll be doing something to rid the roads of dangerous drivers, too. The life you save may be your own - or your family. FIGHT BACK!

## CHECKING OUT THE NEW MODELS

A recent trip to the Detroit Auto Show to look at the newest models clearly indicated that the increased use of consoles and plastics won't make it easier to mount our transceivers in a handy location in many of them. As dashboards become more flimsy, solid mounting is not easy. Looks like those of us with more than one rig in the car will have to opt for police car type mounting brackets.

The one welcome exception noted was in the Chrysler minivan series: There is a made-to-order receptacle above the car radio for a two-meter rig to be custom mounted. Is there a ham operator in their design department?



A VHF - UHF GRID PARTY  
by J. R. Sorrells WA9ABB

The January 1986 VHF Sweepstakes was held on the 11th and 12th. For the VHF'er, the world is divided into 1 X 2 degree grids. The object of the contest is to make as many contacts, in as many grids, on as many VHF - UHF bands as possible. For complete details see the December 1985 QST.

In 1985, Ron Deutsch (NK0P) was the single operator division leader in the contest. Ron hoped to successfully defend his title this year. With the help of friends, his shack was converted into a VHF'er's dream with stations on 6 meters, 2 meters, 220 mhz, 432 mhz, 1296 mhz, and 10 ghz. New antennas were erected. Several power amplifiers were borrowed. The contest had all of the makings of a real dog fight that would go down to the last minute. (Often during the contest, 144.2 mhz sounded like a 20 meter DX pile-up.)

A few days before the contest, a group of local hams decided to go on a VHF - UHF mini-DX-pedition to three (rare) grids southeast of Pueblo. The object was to help NK0P keep the division title in Colorado Springs. Jim (WA9ABB), Jim's father-in-law Charles Bellville (ex-WD9DWJ), Al (N0CMW), and Bob (N8AVN) left Colorado Springs at 11:30 a.m. Saturday. The weather was fantastic during the entire day with clear skies and temperatures around 60 degrees. Their destination was

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an area near Fowler and Manzanola, Colorado, where four grids intersect.

The two meter station consisted of a Kenwood TR7950 at 45 watts into a 5/8 wavelength mag mount antenna. An eleven element beam was available, but not needed. The six meter station was a Yaesu 757GX with a six meter transverter. The antenna consisted of two elements of NKØP's old defunct 4 element six meter beam. The SWR was terrible with only an estimated three or four watts actually getting to the antenna. The 440 mhz station was a Kenwood TR4000 at 25 watts. Attempts were unsuccessful with a 440 mag mount antenna. Fortunately N8AVN brought a 15 element 440 mhz beam that performed superbly. A crystal controlled 10 watt 220 mhz rig and mag mount antenna were unsuccessful in all three grids. (Next year a 220 mhz beam will fix that!)

The grid party had a great time and learned much about portable VHF - UHF operation. All of the grid operating locations were atleast 10 - 15 miles apart. Operating time in each grid was 30 to 45 minutes. One of the favorite locations with a good view of Pike's Peak was a hill in grid DM87 which was surrounded by numerous odoriferous cow chips scattered about like land mines. The grid party planed to bring NKØP a prime chip as a souvineer, but it was forgotten in their haste to move to the next grid square. (I thought Al was supposed to get it!)

The final grid location was set up and the contacts made just as the last rays of sunlight disappeared. Contacts with NKØP were completed in all 3 target grids on 2 meter FM, 6 meter SSB, and 446 mhz FM. No calls from other contest stations were heard while set up in the grids, but would have been answered in a sportsman-like manner had any been heard. The tired grid party eventually made it back to Colorado Springs about 7:30 p.m. after a long fun-filled day - MISSION

ACCOMPLISHED !

Later it was learned that a competitor in DM79 also sent a grid party out to the northeastern part of the state. We were glad to give NKØP our help. Just hope the division title remains in Colorado Springs in 1986. Ron Worked 62 grids for a total of 20,026 points. Look for official results of the contest in the June 1986 QST. Regardless of who wins, Ron is to be praised for his 33 hour marathon effort.

P.S. Just wait till next year.

More bands! More power!

More antennas! More grids!

But please - No More Cow Chips!

\*\*\*\*\*

Noticeable at this big event (at least I noticed it) was the fact that people who were absolute strangers, while rubbing elbows with each other climbing into and out of the cars, pickups and vans on display, were almost unanimously courteous to one another. There were smiles galore, exchanges of chit-chat about the show, comments about how far they had traveled, etc.... Wouldn't it be a fine idea if we could propagate such behavior over and above special events?

#### BEING NICE TO TRUCKERS, TOO

On our return trip to Colorado, in the middle of Illinois on I-80, I came upon an eastbound tanker truck on fire. It was blazing near the engine - oil was dribbling on the road and also burning.

\*\*\*\*\*

The driver had been calling for help on channel 19 as I approached westbound, saying his fire extinguisher was not working. Several trucks went by without stopping; I decided to pull off and give him my extinguisher and, if necessary, to call for help via the local repeaters. The extinguisher did the trick, though. Then another fellow in a pickup stopped and we finished the job with his extinguisher to a fare-thee-well.

NOTE: He didn't offer to "buy" our fire extinguishers, though -- guess who has to pay to have them refilled? BUT: if you were the driver with the fire problem, I'll bet you would be pleading for help, too. We can all effort to be a "Good Samaritan" in such circumstances. The good feeling one gets from such efforts is payment, anyway.

# MILEY'S RADIO

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QSK, no tune up, drives with 100W-list \$529 - SALE \$475 - 1 only  
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Kenwood 4000A 2m & 440 FM Xcvr List \$699 Sale \$525.  
Same as above w/ voice synthesiser \$560.  
Kenwood TR-7950 45W List \$459 - Sale \$358.  
Kenwood 7930 \$314.  
Kenwood TR 3600 440 MHz HT \$305.  
Kenwood TR 2600A New HT \$290 with free extra battery.  
New Kenwood TH21AT \$198. TH41AT \$209 — both with free extra battery.  
Kenwood TM 2570A 70 watt 2 meter FM mobile \$479.  
Kenwood TM 2550A 45 watt 2 meter FM mobile \$389.  
Kenwood TM 2530A 25 watt 2 meter FM mobile \$349.  
Santec 200 ET 2mtr. HT w/soft case, mobile charger & speaker mike \$195.  
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## EQUIPMENT

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Kenwood TR 2500 \$195.  
Kenwood TR 3500 \$225.  
Kenwood TR 3600 \$250.  
Kenwood TR 7950 \$295.  
Kenwood TR 7800 \$169.  
Kenwood VFO 230 \$165.  
Kenwood PS 30 power supply \$100.  
KDK 2033 \$185.  
Icom 2AT \$150.  
Icom 4AT Demo \$195.  
Icom 730 \$425.  
Icom PS 15 power supply \$95.  
Santec ST 142 - mint \$200.  
Azden PCS 2000 \$150. PCS 4000 \$200.  
Tempo S4 \$150.  
Tempo S1 \$125.  
KLM Multi 2000 - 2/10-meter oscar all-mode \$225.  
KLM 2-140 2 meter FM only amp. 2 in/140 out \$135.  
VHF Engineering 10/140W 2 meter amp \$95.  
Heath SB 201 with p.s./spkr. \$225.  
Heath DX 60 cw/am transmitter w/HG10B VFO w/6 & 2 meters.  
Like new - will not separate \$85.  
Heath SB 401 Transmitter \$95.  
Heath HW 12 w/AC supply-Nice condition \$90.  
Yaesu FT 101EE w/processor \$325.  
Yaesu FT 101 EE w/cascade FT filters \$375.  
Yaesu FT 101EX \$300.  
Yaesu FC 757 AT automatic antenna tuner \$175.  
Yaesu FL 110 HF mobile amp - 20/150 watts \$150.  
Ten Tec Argosy 100W or QRP w/circuit breaker \$325.  
Swan 350 - nice shape w/p.s. spkr. \$150.  
Kenpro KR 400 rotor and controller \$85.  
Dentron GLA 1000 Amp \$325.  
Dentron DTL 1200 Amp \$325.  
Sony ICF 2001 general coverage receiver \$150.  
Radio Shack Color Computer II w/cassette \$125.  
Wide selection of amateur antennas-base, mobile, HF, VHF, UHF at reduced prices. We stock Hygain, Hustler, Cushcraft and Larsen antennas, and are now distributors for TET and Butternut antennas.  
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## Membership Application

## PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Call \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_

Are You An ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Full Member \$12.00 ☐

Family Membership \$15.00 ☐

Additional Names \_\_\_\_\_ Calls \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member \$8.00 ☐ (Outside Teller & El Paso Counties.)